IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Amino acid SEQ ID NO: 6 was prepared by first subcloning the complementary DNA SEQ ID NO: 3 in pRC vector (Invitrogen, San Diego, CA). The vector contains cytomegalovirus promoter upstream of the cloning site, and ensures high level expression of the cloned cDNA. The pRC plasmid containing NEM cDNA is then transfected in prostate cancer cell line PC-3M cells using Lipofectamine (Life Technologies, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD). In brief, PC-3M cells were plated at a density of 15,000 cells per well in a six-well culture plate and transfected 24 hours later with either the vehicle plasmid or the plasmids carrying cDNAs. Aliquots containing 2 mg plasmid and 4 mg Lipofectamine in 1 ml serum-free, protein-free Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) were incubated for 45 minutes and added to culture wells. The transfection media was replaced with the complete medium 16 hours later. Two days later, the cells were cultured in selection medium (complete medium containing 400 mg/ml of G418). Individual colonies of the transfectants (NEM PC-3M) were selected after four weeks of culture, dispersed with trypsin/EDTA and propagated further into fresh flasks. The conditioned media was collected, the cells are lysed with a cocktail of detergents and the expressed protein in both these fractions was obtained by affinity chromatography using ProBond™ resin (as described by manufacturer's protocol, Invitrogen).--

C 1

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--SEQ ID NOs: 2-5 are alternative cDNA sequences derived from the isolated NEM cDNA based on Applicant's research and within reasonable margins for error. Peptide SEQ ID

C 2

41

C

NOs: 1, 6-8, 9-11, 12 are alternative sequences based on the cDNA Sequence IDs depending on the reading frame employed to translate same.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--NEM mRNA was detected in prostate cancer specimens as well as cell lines using RT-PCR technique according to published procedures. The primers used in this procedure were: agaacctgtgtgctggcta (forward) and catatactaccccggcta (reverse). The total RNA from the specimens was extracted using a Quiagen RNA extraction kit (Quiagen, CA) according to the manufacturer's protocols, reverse transcribed using reverse transcriptase and amplified using the previously described primers pair. The reaction mixture was then separated on 1% agarose gel, and the amplicon of approximate size of 350 bp was detected as predicted according to SEQ ID NO: 6 in prostrate cancer specimens and DU-145, MCF-7 and PC-3M cancer cell lines. NEM mRNA was also detected by RT-PCR in certain breast cancer tissues demonstrating that NEM may be a marker for other cancers also, particularly the ones that show a high degree of differentiation into the neuroendocrine-type cells like small lung carcinoma, certain pancreatic cancers, renal cancer, adrenomedullary carcinoma etc.--

Please replace the heading on page 22, line 15, with the following rewritten heading:

--*Detection of SEQ ID NO: 3*--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--1. Reverse Transcriptase-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) by synthesizing NEM cDNA-specific amplifiers SEQ ID NO: 3 in order to detect the expression of NEM mRNA by RT-PCR.--